

# 2019 RSVP Augmentation Opportunity

## Grantee Guidance and Instructions



### Overview

Senior Corps is pleased to offer a permanent augmentation of up to \$7,500 to all current federally funded grantees of the RSVP program. We expect that this increase will support grantees' efforts to recruit, retain and place older American volunteers in high-impact service opportunities in their community.

### Augmentation Details

- The additional funding will be a permanent addition to the grantee's baseline funding amount. Grantees will continue to receive this additional funding in future budget years and performance periods, subject to the availability of appropriations and satisfactory performance of the grantee.
- While grantees may request an augmentation of less than \$7,500, Senior Corps strongly encourages all grantees to accept the maximum funding available, to create the greatest possible impact in their communities.
- In 2018, several grantees received one-time augmentations due to the One-Time CHC Surge Augmentation. These funds were not additions to your baseline funding. In identifying your new baseline funding amount, do not include these funds.
- Funds may be used for any allowable purpose. Senior Corps strongly encourages grantees to use them to recruit, retain, and place RSVP volunteers. Examples of expenditures that may be supported by these costs include new marketing or communication efforts, enhanced volunteer training and orientation, or new volunteer recognition activities. See [2 CFR 200, Subpart E](#) for more information on allowable costs.
- The following standard requirements for Senior Corps funding apply:
  - Accepting these additional funds will increase a grantee's required non-federal share proportionally. For RSVP grantees in their first year of operation, your required non-federal share is 10% of the total project cost. For RSVP grantees in their second year of operation, your required non-federal share is 20% of the total project cost. For all other RSVP grantees, your required non-federal share is 30% of the total project cost. Examples are included in the FAQs' below.
  - Accepting these additional funds may increase the number of unduplicated volunteers you need to program towards National Performance Measure Work Plans resulting in outcomes. Examples are included in the FAQs' below. Please note that you have until the end of your three-year performance period to achieve this allocation of unduplicated volunteers.

### To Request the Augmentation

- Grantees will receive a customized letter from their CNCS state office explaining this opportunity and offering detailed instructions to request the augmentation by submitting an amendment in eGrants.
- Grantees that accept the opportunity will revise their budget application in eGrants and submit an amendment, which will be reviewed by CNCS and approved, if appropriate.
- All amendments must be submitted in eGrants by **July 15, 2019**.

### Frequently Asked Questions

**1. Q: How do I calculate my new required non-federal share?**

**A:** If you accept the full amount available, your required non-federal share will increase proportionally.

For example, Trefville RSVP receives annual federal funding of \$70,000 (its baseline funding amount). It has had an RSVP grant for several years, and so it is required to provide 30% of the total project cost.

Its current required non-federal share is:

$$\text{Required Non-Federal Share} = (\text{Federal Share} / (1 - \text{Required \% of Non-Federal Share})) - \text{Federal Share}$$

$$\text{Required Non-Federal Share} = (\$70,000 / (1 - 0.3)) - \$70,000$$

$$\text{Required Non-Federal Share} = \$30,000$$

If it accepts the full \$7,500, it's required non-federal share would also increase. Use the formula above to find the new required non-federal share.

$$\text{New Required Non-Federal Share} = (\text{Federal Share} / (1 - \text{Required \% of Non-Federal Share})) - \text{Federal Share}$$

$$\text{New Required Non-Federal Share} = (\$77,500 / (1 - 0.3)) - \$77,500$$

$$\text{New Required Non-Federal Share} = \$33,214.28$$

## 2. Q: What if I cannot meet the new required non-federal share?

**A:** Accepting this augmentation is not required. In addition, please note that grantees may request a waiver when a grantee cannot meet its required non-federal share in certain circumstances. Senior Corps will consider such waivers if a grantee has attempted to meet this requirement in cases of demonstrated need such as:

- Initial difficulties in the development of local funding sources during the first three years of operations
- An economic downturn, the occurrence of a natural disaster, or similar events in the service area that severely restrict or reduce sources of local funding support
- The unexpected discontinuation of local support from one or more sources that a project has relied on for a period of years.

Such waivers must be requested only after an attempt has been made to meet the required non-federal share.

## 3. How does this affect my National Performance Measures?

RSVP grantees must program at least one unduplicated volunteer into outcome-based work plans for every \$1,000 in annual federal funding received. Increasing the federal share of a grant by \$7,500 thus would increase the number of unduplicated volunteers that must be programmed in this way by eight volunteers.

For example, suppose Lubzos RSVP receives \$90,000 in annual federal funding, its baseline. To find the number of unduplicated it must program in this way:

$$\text{Unduplicated Volunteers Required in Outcome-Based Work Plans} = \text{Federal Funding} / \$1,000$$

$$\text{Unduplicated Volunteers Required in Outcome-Based Work Plans} = \$90,000 / \$1,000$$

$$\text{Unduplicated Volunteers Required in Outcome-Based Work Plans} = \$90,000 / \$1,000$$

$$\text{Unduplicated Volunteers Required in Outcome-Based Work Plans} = 90$$

If it accepts the full augmentation of \$7,500, its total annual federal funding would increase to \$97,500. In this case, its number of required unduplicated volunteers would increase as follows:

$$\text{Unduplicated Volunteers Required in Outcome-Based Work Plans} = \text{Federal Funding} / \$1,000$$

$$\text{Unduplicated Volunteers Required in Outcome-Based Work Plans} = \$97,500 / \$1,000$$

$$\text{Unduplicated Volunteers Required in Outcome-Based Work Plans} = 98$$

Please note that CNCS evaluates whether or not a grantee has met its National Performance Measure at the end of its three-year performance period, meaning grantees would have three years to allocate all unduplicated volunteers appropriately.

**4. Q: May I request an amount other than \$7,500?**

**A:** Yes, you may request any amount up to \$7,500. Senior Corps strongly encourages all grantees to accept the full \$7,500 available to them. Grantees may not receive an augmentation of more than \$7,500.

**5. Q: Is accepting the augmentation mandatory?**

**A:** No. However, Senior Corps strongly recommends accepting these funds and using them to increase RSVP service in your community.

**6. Q: Will CNCS provide more information on what these funds may be used for? Can I ask specific questions about specific items?**

**A:** Funds may be used for any allowable purpose. Senior Corps strongly encourages grantees to use them to recruit or retain RSVP volunteers. However, this is a recommendation only. To determine if something is an allowable cost, consult the Cost Principles in [2 CFR 200, Subpart E](#) and direct additional questions to your CNCS Program Officer and Grants Officer.

**7. Q: If I accept the augmentation, what amount will be used for my next round of competition?**

**A:** As these are permanent additions to baseline funding, the funds will be included in future rounds of competition. This includes the FY2020 RSVP Competition.